

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, PINT, PFOR

SUBJECT: PDC STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF MILITARY COUP

REF: SANTIAGO 4403

1. CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) PRESIDENT PATRICIO AYLWIN, IN A STATEMENT RELEASED TO THE PRESS SEPT 17, GIVES STRONG SUPPORT TO THE ACTION OF THE CHILEAN ARMED FORCES IN OVERTHROWING THE GOVERNMENT OF PRESIDENT ALLENDE. THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER MAKING THIS STATEMENT AVAILABLE TO CERTAIN OF OUR MISSIONS IN OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES.

2. "NEWS REPORTS WE HAVE AVAILABLE SHOW THAT WHAT HAPPENED IN CHILE IS BEING JUDGED ABROAD WITH A LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF REALITY. THE TRUTH IS THAT ALLENDE'S GOVERNMENT HAD EXHAUSTED, IN A COMPLETE FAILURE, THE 'CHILEAN ROAD TO SOCIALISM' AND WAS READY TO CARRY OUT AN AUTO-COUP TO INSTALL A COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP BY FORCE.

"THE MAJOR PROOF IS THE ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF ARMS POSSESSED BY THE ILLEGAL MARXIST MILITIAS, WHICH FORMED A LITERAL PARALLEL ARMY WITH FIRE POWER EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF REGULAR REGIMENTS, AND THE ACTIVE PRESENCE OF MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND FOREIGN EXTREMISTS.

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"CHILE WAS ON THE VERGE OF A 'PRAGUE COUP' WHICH WOULD HAVE

BEEN VERY BLOODY AND THE ARMED FORCES DID NOTHING BUT ANTICIPATE THAT IMMINENT RISK. CHRISTIAN DEMOCRACY MADE EVERY EFFORT TO REACH A DEMOCRATIC SOLUTION, UNTIL THE LAST FORTNIGHT WE TALKED WITH PRESIDENT ALLENDE AND HIS GOVERNMENT, IN SEARCH OF THE INDISPENSABLE RECTIFICATIONS TO SAVE CHILE FROM INSTITUTIONAL BREAKDOWN AND ECONOMIC DISASTER. OUR EFFORTS WERE NOT RECEIVED SERIOUSLY AND THE FAILURE OF THESE EFFORTS LED TO MILITARY INTERVENTION, WHICH THE ARMED FORCES DID NOT SEEK AND WHICH WAS OPPOSED TO ALL THEIR TRADITIONS."

DAVIS

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